

# Seek God for Wisdom

by Zac Poonen

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*To obtain Divine wisdom, we must seek it as we would hidden wealth, and cultivate a heart that is pure, gentle, and merciful.*

**Scripture:** Proverbs 2:4, Proverbs 2:6, Ecclesiastes 4:13, Matthew 5:8, Matthew 13:44, Romans 14:17, Philippians 3:8, James 1:5, James 3:17

**Topics:** "Building the Church", "Divine Wisdom"

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## Description

Zac Poonen emphasizes the necessity of seeking Divine wisdom with the same fervor as one would seek hidden treasure, as highlighted in Proverbs 2:4 and Matthew 13:44. He explains that true wisdom is characterized by purity of heart, gentleness, and a willingness to yield, which are essential for building the true church of Christ. Poonen stresses that a wise Christian embodies mercy, patience, and fairness, and is free from quarrelsome behavior, reflecting the righteousness and peace of the kingdom of God. He encourages believers to seek wisdom from God, reminding them that it is available to those who ask in faith, as stated in James 1:5. Ultimately, the sermon calls for a deep inner life that prioritizes God's approval over human judgment.

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## Transcript

The Bible says that Divine wisdom can be obtained only if we seek for it as we would for hidden wealth (Prov. 2:4). Jesus said that the kingdom of heaven was like a treasure hidden in a field that a man, when he discovered it, sold everything he had, in order to obtain it (Mt. 13:44). It is only those who forsake all, who give up everything to God, who count everything else on earth as rubbish compared to Divine wisdom, (as Paul did - Phil.3: 8), who will obtain this wisdom And only through such people will the true church of Jesus Christ be built. We read in James 3:17 that wisdom from heaven is first of all pure and full of quiet gentleness. Then it is peace loving and courteous. It allows discussion and is willing to yield to others; it is full of mercy and good deeds. It is wholehearted and straightforward and sincere.

The first and most important characteristic of wisdom is purity of the heart and it grows from the seed of the fear of God deep within the heart. It is not by clever brains but by pure hearts that the true church of Christ is built. We cannot build the church if we don't have spiritual revelation on God and His ways - and only the pure in heart will be allowed to see God in their hearts (Matt.5:8).

The kingdom of God is righteousness and peace (Rom.14:17). True wisdom is never argumentative or quarrelsome. It does not strive. It maintains harmonious relationships with everyone, as far as possible. It

is impossible to quarrel with a man who is filled with Divine wisdom, for such a man is a peaceable man.

A christian with divine wisdom is always fair to others, gentle, patient, forbearing, courteous and is never harsh or rough but always considerate of the feelings of others and can bear with one another - even if some are slow of understanding or crude in their manners.

One who cannot receive admonishment and exhortation, or who feels that he has gone beyond that stage, is truly foolish (See Eccl.4:13). So where the brothers and sisters in a church are eager to receive exhortation and correction, a truly glorious church will be built. The wise man loves those who exhort him faithfully and will eagerly seek out their company.

A christian with wisdom is full of mercy - not just occasionally merciful. He has no problem forgiving anyone, freely and cheerfully from the heart. He does not judge or condemn others, but rather exercises compassion towards them. This mercy is not just a mental attitude but finds expression in good fruits that are brought forth in his actions.

A christian who has Divine wisdom will be free from all crookedness. He will be wholehearted and straightforward, with a single eye, free from doubts and hesitation. He will not be double-minded, but strong in faith in God, and he won't be looking at his own weaknesses, but at the promises of God. Such a person knows that victory over all conscious sin is possible here and now. He is a dependable person - who can be trusted at all times to keep his word. He is steadfast and unmovable. You cannot make him bend his convictions or to compromise in any matter. He is straight and upright as a rod.

A christian with wisdom has more spiritual content inwardly than others can see in him externally. His hidden life is better than the opinion that others have of his external life. He watches his inner thoughts, motives and attitudes far more than his external words and actions. He longs for God's approval over his inner life and cares nothing at all for man's approval of his external life.

The Holy Spirit gives us an encouraging word in James 1:5. If we lack this WISDOM (and who among us can say that we do not need any more wisdom?), we are commanded to ask God. It is the Lord Who gives WISDOM (Prov.2:6). But we are to ask in faith. He is always ready to give a bountiful supply of wisdom to all who ask Him; He will not resent it.

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